

FEBRUARY 26, 2014

RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 113-41
TEXT OF H.R. 2824, PREVENTING GOVERNMENT
WASTE AND PROTECTING COAL MINING JOBS
IN AMERICA

[Showing the text of the bill as ordered reported by the
Committee on Natural Resources.]

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Preventing Govern-
3 ment Waste and Protecting Coal Mining Jobs in Amer-
4 ica”.

5 **SEC. 2. INCORPORATION OF SURFACE MINING STREAM**
6 **BUFFER ZONE RULE INTO STATE PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 503 of the Surface Min-
8 ing Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C.
9 1253) is amended by adding at the end the following:

10 “(e) STREAM BUFFER ZONE MANAGEMENT.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the require-
12 ments under subsection (a), each State program
13 shall incorporate the necessary rule regarding excess
14 spoil, coal mine waste, and buffers for perennial and
15 intermittent streams published by the Office of Sur-
16 face Mining Reclamation and Enforcement on De-
17 cember 12, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 75813 et seq.).

1 “(2) STUDY OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The Sec-
2 retary shall—

3 “(A) at such time as the Secretary deter-
4 mines all States referred to in subsection (a)
5 have fully incorporated the necessary rule re-
6 ferred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection
7 into their State programs, publish notice of
8 such determination;

9 “(B) during the 5-year period beginning on
10 the date of such publication, assess the effec-
11 tiveness of implementation of such rule by such
12 States; and

13 “(C) upon the conclusion of such period,
14 submit a comprehensive report on the impacts
15 of such rule to the Committee on Natural Re-
16 sources of the House of Representatives and the
17 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
18 the Senate, including—

19 “(i) an evaluation of the effectiveness
20 of such rule;

21 “(ii) an evaluation of any ways in
22 which the existing rule inhibits energy pro-
23 duction; and

24 “(iii) a description in detail of any
25 proposed changes that should be made to

1 the rule, the justification for such changes,
2 all comments on such changes received by
3 the Secretary from such States, and the
4 projected costs and benefits of such
5 changes.

6 “(3) LIMITATION ON NEW REGULATIONS.—The
7 Secretary may not issue any regulations under this
8 Act relating to stream buffer zones or stream protec-
9 tion before the date of the publication of the report
10 under paragraph (2), other than a rule necessary to
11 implement paragraph (1).”.

12 (b) DEADLINE FOR STATE IMPLEMENTATION.—Not
13 later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act, a State with a State program approved under section
15 503 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act
16 of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1253) shall submit to the Secretary
17 of the Interior amendments to such program pursuant to
18 part 732 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, incor-
19 porating the necessary rule referred to in subsection (e)(1)
20 of such section, as amended by this section.

